

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 9072 - SB 9009

October 29, 2021

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Requires elections of school board members to be conducted on a partisan basis. Removes prohibition for a person seeking a position on a school board to campaign as the nominee of a political party and authorizes political parties to nominate candidates for school board membership by any method authorized under the rules of the party or by primary election under Title 2. Removes process for a local governing body to conduct a nonpartisan primary election for school board members.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS (010306, 010388): Amendment 010306 deletes all language after the enacting clause. Authorizes elections of school board members to be conducted on a partisan basis. Authorizes a person seeking a position on any board in the county to campaign as the nominee or representative of a political party and authorizes political parties to nominate candidates for school board membership by any method authorized under the rules of the party or by primary election under Title 2 if at least one county primary board elects to conduct school board elections on a partisan basis. Establishes dates and qualifying deadlines for school board primary elections.

Amendment 010388 authorizes a county executive committee to direct the county election commission to hold a primary for school board offices to be elected in the regular November 2022 election.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENTS:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Based on information from the Secretary of State's Office, there are 77 counties which will be holding a May county primary. These counties can include the school board primary candidates on the ballot with no additional costs.

- The 18 counties that are not holding a county primary will have to nominate school board members through the political party rules because the deadline to call the primary has passed.
- Any future actions of the 18 counties to call a primary in order to hold a primary election for school board members will result in an unknown permissive cost to local government.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/ah